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The ACPL 34th Annual Poetry Contest

That's What Friends Are For



September 12–November 7, 2016

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Children's Services and the Teens Department.



**Allen County
Public Library**

900 Library Plaza
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
www.acpl.info
(260) 421-1200



Teens
Allen County Public Library
900 Library Plaza, Fort Wayne, IN 46802
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**2016 Poetry Contest
Allen County Public Library**

That's What Friends Are For

Thank you to the more than eight hundred children
and teens who submitted poems for this contest.

Thank you also to our judges:

Helen Presser	Canterbury Lower School
Cindy Steury	Huntington University
Bob Jones	Retired Teacher
Fran Hewett	Croninger Elementary
Sarah Sandman	Indiana University Purdue University, Fort Wayne
Susi Jones	Heritage Elementary
Mark Hewett	Croninger Elementary
Tammy Miller	Retired Teacher

Mary R. Voors
Children's Services
(260) 421-1220

Peggy Vaniman
Teens Department
(260) 421-1255



Allen County Public Library
900 Library Plaza
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
(260) 421-1200

Winners by Grade

Grade	Place	Name of Poem	First Name	Last Name	School
Kindergarten	1st Place	That's What Friends Are For	Henry	Liu	Canterbury School
Kindergarten	2nd Place	Good Friends	Brooklyn	Chenoweth	Canterbury School
Kindergarten	3rd Place	Playful Friends	Jenna	Inayat	Canterbury School
Kindergarten	Honorable Mention	Friend Fun	Kinsey	Presser	Canterbury School
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Grade 1	1st Place	Best Friends	Mira	Yarram	Canterbury School
Grade 1	2nd Place	Friends	Melissa	Tan	Canterbury School
Grade 1	3rd Place	Friendship	Manhattan	Morrissey	Canterbury School
Grade 1	Honorable Mention	Best Friends	Ellie	Yaruchyk	Canterbury School
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Grade 2	1st Place	My Friends Are Special	Samantha	Vance	Haley School
Grade 2	2nd Place	Friends	Gavin	Clark	Central Lutheran
Grade 2	3rd Place	When We Disagree	Brooklynn	Deane	Canterbury School
Grade 2	Honorable Mention	untitled	Hannah Grace	Bryan	Emmanuel -St. Michael Lutheran School
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Grade 3	1st Place	My Best Friend	Trinity	Kimmel	Central Lutheran
Grade 3	2nd Place	Together	Elise	Estabrook	Estabrook Homeschool
Grade 3	3rd Place	That's What Friends Are For	Zanaiya	Limzerwala	Canterbury School
Grade 3	Honorable Mention	Best Friend	Garrett	Hohenbrink	Central Lutheran
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Grade 4	1st Place	A Good Friend	Naomi	Maurer	Homeschool
Grade 4	2nd Place	How Not to be a Friend	Isaac	Maurer	Homeschool
Grade 4	3rd Place	Why Do You Have Friends	Lauren	Biggs	Canterbury School
Grade 4	Honorable Mention	untitled	Jeremiah	Thom	Holy Cross Lutheran
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Grade 5	1st Place	That's What Friends Are For	Violet	Park	St. Paul's Lutheran School
Grade 5	2nd Place	Who Would You Go To?	Ana	Bierbaum	Canterbury Middle School
Grade 5	3rd Place	True Friends	Eliana	Ward	Lutheran South Unity School
Grade 5	Honorable Mention	Friendship	Amia	Carter	Canterbury Middle School
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Grade 6	1st Place	untitled	Keegan	Headlee	Memorial Park Middle School
Grade 6	2nd Place	Come What May	Madeline	Phuong	Canterbury Middle School
Grade 6	3rd Place	Together	Molly	Langton	Memorial Park Middle School
Grade 6	Honorable Mention	Bacon	Ariela	Dawson	Memorial Park Middle School
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Grade 7	1st Place	That's What Friends Are For	Maysen	Dahlenburg	Concordia Elementary
Grade 7	2nd Place	untitled	Brooklyn-Kai	Xayarath	Memorial Park Middle School
Grade 7	3rd Place	Friends are...	Laura	Burris	Emmaus Lutheran



Grade 7	3rd Place	untitled	Amelia	Elliott	Emmaus Lutheran
Grade 7	Honorable Mention	I Hope You Find Someone...	Arayana	Chaffin	Central Lutheran
Grade 7	Honorable Mention	Best Friends	Nariyah	Mendez	Concordia Elementary
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Grade 8	1st Place	untitled	Ashley	Bishop	Jefferson Middle School
Grade 8	2nd Place	That's What Friends Are For	Riley	Nower	Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School
Grade 8	3rd Place	That's What Friends Are For	Atalia	Mendez	St. Paul's Lutheran School
Grade 8	Honorable Mention	She Is	Morgan	Aldrich	St. Paul's Lutheran School
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Grade 9	1st Place	A Friend in Need	Nathan	Phuong	Canterbury High School
Grade 9	2nd Place	Friends	Julia	Weeks	North Side High School
Grade 9	3rd Place	What Friends Are For	Isaac	Taylor	Northside High School
Grade 9	Honorable Mention	That's What Friends Are For	Daniesha	Houston	Ward
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Grade 10	1st Place	friend	Zoe	Moore	Homestead High School
Grade 10	2nd Place	untitled	Thomas	Wegmann	John Young Preparatory High School
Grade 10	3rd Place	Strangers to Friends	Sherdell	Baker	New Haven High School
Grade 10	Honorable Mention	What Are Friends For	Jessica	Strickler	North Side High School
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Grade 11	1st Place	Friendships	Marco	Hernandez	North Side High School
Grade 11	2nd Place	Real Friends	Saleh	Ali	North Side High School
Grade 11	3rd Place	What Are Friends For	Adriana	VanPatten	North Side High School
Grade 11	Honorable Mention	untitled	Libni	Sedano	South Side High School
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Grade 12	2nd Place	That's What Friends Are For	Jacqueline	Bush	North Side High School
Grade 12	3rd Place	Friendship	John	Houser	North Side High School
Grade 12	1st Place	What are friends for	Flynn	Grayson Catey	North Side High School



# Winners by School

Grade	Place	Name of Poem	First Name	Last Name	School
Kindergarten	1st Place	That's What Friends Are For	Henry	Liu	Canterbury Lower School
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Kindergarten	Honorable Mention	Friend Fun	Kinsey	Presser	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 1	1st Place	Best Friends	Mira	Yaram	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 1	2nd Place	Friends	Melissa	Tan	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 1	3rd Place	Friendship	Manhattan	Morrissey	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 1	Honorable Mention	Best Friends	Ellie	Yaruchyk	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 2	3rd Place	When We Disagree	Brooklynn	Deane	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 3	3rd Place	That's What Friends Are For	Zanaiya	Limzerwala	Canterbury Lower School
Grade 4	3rd Place	Why Do You Have Friends	Lauren	Biggs	Canterbury Lower School
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Grade 5	3rd Place	True Friends	Eliana	Ward	Lutheran South Unity School
Grade 6	1st Place	untitled	Keegan	Headlee	Memorial Park Middle School
Grade 6	3rd Place	Together	Molly	Langton	Memorial Park Middle School
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**Kindergarten-1st Place**  
**Henry Liu**

**Canterbury School**

### **That's What Friends Are For**

Friends are helpful  
Friends are kind  
Friends play checkers  
Friends play chess  
Playful friends are the best!

**Kindergarten-2nd Place**  
**Brooklyn Chenoweth**

**Canterbury School**

### **Good Friends**

Friends care  
Friends share  
Good friends  
Are always there!

**Kindergarten-3rd Place**  
**Jenna Inayat**

**Canterbury School**

### **Playful Friends**

We swing  
We climb  
We skip  
We hide  
We jump  
We run  
We ride  
We slide  
Having fun  
Is number one!  
Recess Friends

**Kindergarten-Honorable Mention**  
**Kinsey Presser**

**Canterbury School**

### **Friend Fun**

Writing  
Reading  
Playing  
Swinging  
Making Art  
Dressing Up  
Friends are fun!

**First Grade-1st Place**  
**Mira Yarram**

**Canterbury School**

### **Best Friends**

Kind and gentle  
Sharing too  
Lots of things  
Fun to do  
Friendship is the number one.  
Best friends are really fun.

**First Grade-2nd Place**  
**Melissa Tan**

**Canterbury School**

### **Friends**

Helpful friends  
Loving friends  
Truthful friends  
Gentle friends  
Kind friends  
Peaceful friends  
And most of all  
be a friend to all

**First Grade-3rd Place**  
**Manhattan Morrissey**

**Canterbury School**

**Friendship**

Old friends  
New friends  
Weird friends  
cool friends  
fun friends  
crazy friends  
Joyful friends.  
pack of friends!

**First Grade-Honorable Mention**  
**Ellie Yaruchyk**

**Canterbury School**

**BEST friends**

Happy friends  
Little friends  
Big friends  
Fun friends  
Good friends  
Loving friends  
Wondering friends  
Friends for life!

**Second Grade-1st Place**  
**Samantha Vance**

**Haley School**

### **My Friends Are Special**

My friends are special.  
We do sidewalk chalk.  
We talk together.  
We enjoy sleepovers together.  
We make things together.  
We play with dolls together.  
We play spies together.  
We play our tablets together.  
Friends are to play with.  
My friends are special.

**Second Grade-2nd Place**  
**Gavin Clark**

**Central Lutheran School**

### **Friends**

Friends are fun  
Reece likes to run  
I like to run, too  
Every day we play ball  
Now the teacher calls  
Day is done  
So much fun

**Second Grade-3rd Place**  
**Brooklynn Deane**

**Canterbury School**

**When We Disagree**

I like 1

You like 2

I like orange

You like blue.

I like dogs

You like cats

I like reading

You like writing.

But...we can still

Be friends!

**Second Grade-Honorable Mention**  
**Hannah Grace Bryan**

**Emmanuel-St. Michael**

Friends are faithful and never rotten.  
They help you be nice when you have forgotten.

Naomi is sweet,  
She would never cheat.

Friends help you when you fall.  
They always come when you call.

Caroline and Ella are smart,  
They could never be apart.

Friends love when you smile.  
They wish it would last a while.

Violet is kind,  
She always uses her mind.

Friends make your life fun.  
A girl can't have just one!

**Third Grade-1st Place**  
**Trinity Kimmel**

**Central Lutheran School**

### **My Best Friend**

She's the first friend I ever made.

She wears her hair in a braid.

She used to live across the street from me.

We love to play tag, pet dogs and climb in trees.

I had to move last summer.

She thought that was a real bummer.

We didn't know when we would see each other again.

But guess who's spending the night this weekend!

**Third Grade-2nd Place**  
**Elise Estabrook**

**Estabrook Homeschool**

### **Together**

We laugh and play.

We dance and sing.

We help each other.

We have fun, too.

We climb trees together.

We ride bikes and

We read together.

Can you guess who we are?

Friends!

**Third Grade-3rd Place**  
**Zanaiya Limzerwala**

**Canterbury School**

### **That's What Friends are For**

I ran into a fierce cat.  
My friend took care of that.  
I almost stepped on a thumbtack.  
But she moved it out of the way.  
Then she looked at me as if to say...  
“Well that is that.”  
Now I know wherever I hide...  
My friend will be there standing right  
by my side.

**Third Grade-Honorable Mention**  
**Garrett Hohenbrink**

**Central Lutheran School**

### **Best Friend**

Best friend  
Funny  
Laughing  
High five  
Plays baseball  
Same size

### **A Good Friend**

A friend cannot be a friend unless you have fun with them.

But that is not all a friend is for.

If you find that you need help,

A real friend does not walk out the door.

A friend laughs with you when you are happy,

And lifts your heart when you are sad.

A friend tells you things you need to hear,

And stands up for you when things are bad.

A friend is someone you can talk with,

And someone you can listen to.

And if you have a problem,

A friend will listen to you.

No matter what happens,

A friend will always care.

Even when there is little,

A friend has love to share.

### **How Not to be a Friend**

Always quarrel, argue and fight.  
Always scream and hit and bite.  
Do not let him ever rest.  
Jump on him at night.

Always play pranks to irritate.  
When you meet, show up late.  
If you are going fishing  
Make sure to steal all his bait.

When he tries to talk, yell.  
Don't listen to what he wants to tell.  
Tell him that he's wrong.  
Remind him of the time he fell.

Ignore him.  
Bore him.  
Break his things.  
Step on him.

If you do this, I guarantee  
A friend is not what you will be.  
The one you do all this to  
Will call you an enemy.

### Why Do You Have Friends?

Why,  
do you,  
have those people who,  
are always  
there for you?  
They're there  
When you're suffering,  
They're there  
when you're imprudent.  
They will help you  
study,  
and encourage you  
to spread your wings.  
They will always  
be your friend,  
even in a fight,  
and when you're  
in darkness,  
they will bring you  
into light,  
laugh with you,  
play with you,  
and share secrets with you.  
Try to stick together  
like glue,  
because  
you will need that  
special person  
by you.

**Fourth Grade-Honorable Mention  
Jeremiah Thom**

**Holy Cross Lutheran School**

Friendship is like a furnace on a cold winter day;

Friendship is more than fun,

It is fun for a lifetime.

Friendship is like a key to a broken door of loneliness.

Friendship is what ties people together.

Forever.

Until life everlasting.

**Fifth Grade-1st Place  
Violet Park**

**St. Paul's Lutheran School**

**That's What Friends Are**

If you were the head

I'd be the hat

If you were the baseball

I'd be the bat

If you were the yarn ball

I'd be the cat

That's what friends are

If you were the heart

I'd be the arrow

If you were the seeds

I'd be the sparrow

That's what friends are

If you were the road

I'd be the car

That's what friends are

**Fifth Grade-2nd Place**  
**Ana Bierbaum**

**Canterbury Middle School**

### **Who Would You Go To?**

When you're feeling down,  
Who would you go to?  
If you're just plain old sad,  
Who would you go to?  
If you need someone to cheer you up,  
Who would you go to?  
Me?  
Who would I go to?  
That's easy,  
My best friend

**Fifth Grade-3rd Place**  
**Eliana Ward**

**Lutheran South Unity School**

### **True Friends**

The sky shone sapphire blue,  
the songs we sang were true  
  
Of the cows who jumped over the moon,  
and the dish who ran away with the spoon  
  
We sang together in the round,  
we sang together, heads bowed  
  
We let our imaginations soar  
like birds, we flew about some more  
  
Around the hive,  
around we glide  
  
Under the branch,  
we pranced, we danced

Oh, how we jumped and shouted hurrah!  
Oh, how we ran and laughed—ha, ha!

We played games in the bright sun,  
we splashed in puddles, oh what fun!

That's what friends are for,  
I could not want for more.

**Fifth Grade-Honorable Mention**  
**Amia Carter**

**Canterbury Middle School**

### **Friendship**

I share with you  
Not just the most awesome selfies  
But also some of my life's  
Most precious memories  
Our friendship runs deep  
Right through my heart and soul  
You have no idea how important  
In my life, is your role  
I don't care about anything else  
Other than having you around  
Because only your smiles have  
The power to wipe away my frown...  
But that's what friends are for

There's a time for love,  
There's a time for hatred.  
There's a time to hug,  
And there's a time to care.  
No matter what, friends  
are always there.

That's What Friends  
Are For.

There's a time to play,  
And there's a time to get work done.  
There's a time for silence,  
And time to laugh.  
There's a time to hold on,  
And there's a time to let it go.

Friends are always there,

And that's what  
We're for.

**Come What May**

Never  
The odd one out  
Always there  
Through thick or thin  
By my side  
She appears  
Every time  
I close my eyes

Protects me from  
The hurtful  
Words  
Whispers  
Secrets  
Teaching me  
The bliss  
Of ignorance

Never hides  
Behind the clouds  
Even when  
The sun departs  
The weather sours  
And rain  
Pours down  
And drenches me

When I tumble  
She lends  
A hand  
And brushes off  
The dirt  
And pain  
To help me  
Up again

Always there  
'Til the end  
No matter what  
Stands with me  
Hand in hand  
Come what may  
Even if she's my  
Imaginary friend

**Together**

Alone you are strong, but together we're stronger.

Alone you are good, but together we're better.

Alone you are loud, but together we're louder.

Alone you stand tall, but together we're taller.

And no matter what happens,

I know we'll always be friends together.

**Bacon**

Bacon-my best friend.

I look in the fridge

It's always there for me

Toss it in the microwave

Watch it sizzle.

Smell the meatiness

Bacon lies on the plate,

Waiting for me to eat him.

Then he hops in my mouth

And rides down the waterslide.

Yum!

**That's What Friends Are For**

Friendship is like a tree,  
Changing in the seasons,  
Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter,

Friendship is like a tree,  
Sprouting in the Spring,  
Fresh and new and tender too,  
Growing together as we grow too,

Friendship is like a tree,  
Swaying in the Summer,  
Not new or old and secrets told,  
Growing taller and much stronger,

Friendship is like a tree,  
Changing in the Fall,  
Brightly colored, Standing tall,  
Standing together as the leaves fall,

Friendship is like a tree,  
Shivering in the Winter,  
No leaves at all still standing tall,  
Growing old together,

No matter the season,  
We don't need a reason,  
To always be together in due season.

**Seventh Grade-2nd Place  
Brooklyn-Kai Xayarath**

**Memorial Park Middle School**

She thought it couldn't get any  
worse.

She'd cry to her the more it  
hurt.

But oh, it does as night awaits  
screams are heard of doors and  
hits.

It's just a bruise but it still  
scars.

She still had her but she  
was fading  
deeper

and

dee  
pe  
r until she

blurs

The blur was gone but all she  
knew

was her friend was there  
through light and dark, helped her  
through her toughest times, pieced  
together right and wrong and still  
considers they're stuck together

even though one is  
already  
gone.

**Seventh Grade-3rd Place**  
**Lauren Burris**

**Emmaus Lutheran School**

**Friends are...**

Friends are the people you go to for help.

Friends are the light at the end of a dark hallway.

Friends are specially made for you.

Friends are secret keepers.

Friends are story tellers and fun time havers.

Friends are the people you bring along just for the ride.

Friends are me and you and all people that are nice and have someone to share everything with.

Friends are the people you put your trust into.

Friends are the people you put before yourself.

They're the people who support you in a time of personal doubt or hardship.

**Seventh Grade-3rd Place**  
**Amelia Elliott**

**Emmaus Lutheran School**

What are friends for?

Listening to you

Loving you,

Being there for you,

Supporting you,

Even when you know you're wrong.

Helping you get back on the path,

When you've wandered into the woods.

**I Hope You Find Someone...**

I hope you find someone who lets you be you.  
Is as crazy as you are,  
Treats you like a diamond,  
Lifts you up when you are sad.  
Will let you tell them anything,  
You feel like you can trust,  
Helps you through the pain,  
Will give you advice when you need it,  
Will be open, and tell you how they feel,  
Will go through fire to save you,  
Let you obsess over things you love,  
I hope you find someone who would take a *bullet* for you.  
Because those are things that a true friend would do.

**BEST FRIENDS!**

I GOT YOUR BACK, YOU GOT MINE,  
I'LL HELP YOU OUT, ANYTIME.  
TO SEE YOU HURT, TO SEE YOU CRY,  
MAKES ME WEEP, AND WANNA DIE.  
AND IF YOU AGREE TO NEVER FIGHT,  
IT WOULDN'T MATTER, WHO'S WRONG OR RIGHT.  
IF A BROKEN HEART, NEEDS A MEND,  
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE, TILL THE END.  
IF YOUR CHEEKS ARE WET, FROM DROPS OF TEARS,  
DON'T WORRY, LET GO OF YOUR FEARS.  
HAND IN HAND, LOVE IS SENT.  
WE'LL BE BESTIES...TILL THE END!!!

I'm falling into black.

Flailing, gripping the emptiness. Feelings of hope,

Coursing through my veins.

All direction is completely lost.

Rock bottom rising up,

Its ghostly fingers reaching out.

A flicker in the distance,

Catches my eye.

The light grows brighter,

My falling stops,

Inches from the bottom.

Blinding me until a person appears,

Steady hands grab my own,

And pull me into light.

The world around is colorful.

Full of happiness, and excitement.

Darkness is no longer in sight.

A glowing figure stares,

Why have they saved me?

A smile appeared,

Gently she spoke,

"That's what friends are for."

**“That’s What Friends Are For.”**

Laughing, tricks, and singing, too.

These are some things we will do.

We watch movies and T.V.

We decide which ones we’ll see.

Cheer me up when I’m feeling down.

And I’ll make sure you never frown.

Inside jokes and gossip, too.

None of these make me feel blue.

Because that’s what friends are for.

We’ll fight the bullies side by side.

Or maybe we’ll just run and hide.

We’ll help each other when we’re old.

When we’re young we keep a hold.

On the other’s mind each day.

Give the other our own say.

On our projects, which we’ll share.

Maybe our grade will be fair.

Because that’s what friends are for.

Call each other when we’re sick.

Make sure their dance moves are real slick.

Maybe we’ll have a day out.

Unless the other’s parents shout.

In any contest we’ll give them quite a cheer.

We know that they will hear.

We’ll laugh, and sing, and dance, and play.

Stay by them every day.

Because that’s what friends are for.

**That's What Friends are For**

Do you remember the night,  
with our blankets so tight.  
As we walked up the hill,  
with not a light in sight.

Or our long facetime calls,  
hoping our secrets won't go through the walls.  
But we laughed so hard,  
you could hear us in the halls.

When we would watch our favorite t.v. shows,  
trying to cover up our frozen toes.  
Stuffing our faces,  
Hoping the night won't end with my bros.

I cannot wait for what the future may hold,  
For when these memories unfold.  
I will jump for joy,  
Even when I'm old.

**Eighth Grade-Honorable Mention  
Morgan Aldrich**

**She Is**

She's beautiful and strong  
Yet she feels she does not belong

She's broken and hurt  
And she still drags herself out of the dirt

I wish she could see,  
The beauty, she sees in me

Through everything and more  
She is still the one I adore  
Because that, is what friends are for.

### A Friend in Need

My knuckles glare up at me  
Like white dice, awaiting the next  
Roll to send them tumbling and clattering  
Until only blind pips look out.

My hands strangle  
The whispering  
Rust on the sagging rail.

*Things will be better*  
*When this is over. No more*  
*Insulting murmurs or hurtful lies,*  
*No more*

*Stinging remarks or serrated words.*  
With a blistering sunset in its throat,  
The sky chokes, its contorted face  
Mottled, flaming, engorged.

*Tires slashed,*  
*Dragged the bike four miles home.*

My finger nails prick into my palms  
As I climb over  
The railing, trembling.

The rain runs rouge,

Steals its tint from the sky.  
*In the broken-tiled school bathroom,*  
*Three merciless sets of fists. I,*  
*In an unconscious heap,*  
*Freed from the pain.*

Over the bridge's concrete  
Barrier, there are but forty feet and a swift  
River to oblivion.

*At home. Late for dinner.*

*The steel buckle*  
*In dad's hand,*  
*Snakes back to strike again.*

Suddenly, a hand  
Pulls me back.  
It's the boy I've seen pushed  
Aside in the hallways,  
Locked in a supply room,  
Screamed profanities at. The same boy who  
Stood up for me  
Last week on the basketball court,  
Took punches for me so I could escape.

In his eyes, I see  
No respite in death.  
In his smile, I feel  
A flicker of hope.  
"Call me 'friend,'" he calmly says.  
For now, words are not needed  
As we walk down the street, away  
From the bridge.

### Friends

She is a warm house on a cold snowy day

She is the wilderness where we love to play

She is a big fort, both welcoming and nice

She is a very funny clown in a big circus tent

She is a book, quiet yet full of feeling

She is a king size candy bar, tall and sweet

She is a whisper sharing secrets all night

She is Christmas day, full of surprise

She is a cell phone, loud and soft

She is the big present you always look forward to

She is my very best friend

### What friends are for

Friends are for clowning around in your basement until 4 in the morning.

Friends are for going on late night trips to the gas station to get a couple energy drinks and chips.

Friends are for buying balloons and party hats to make the hangout more exciting.

Friends are for going to the movies and being way too loud in the back row.

Friends are for going to Walmart and filling a cart full of things we don't need, and leave it in the middle of the shoe department.

Friends are for playing mini golf and telling each other they're going to miss.

Friends are for writing on each other's face when someone falls asleep.

Friends are for going to the campground and speeding around in the golf cart.

Friends are for going to a haunted house, and telling all the actors that you're going to fight them after

they scare you.

Friends are for texting each other when you are in the same room, just to make things more funny.

Friends are for watching "The Cat in the Hat" and falling asleep 30 minutes in.

Friends are for a lot of things.

**Ninth Grade-Honorable Mention**  
**Daniesha Mikera Houston**

**Ward Education Center**

**That's what friends are for**

Giving good advice & help doing chores  
That's what friends are for

When there's nothing to do & you get bored  
That's what friends are for

When you've acted up in school & you know  
when you get home your butt's gonna  
be sore  
That's what friends are for

When you have low self-esteem but you,  
Your friends adore  
That's what friends are for

When you talk back & get in trouble  
And your mom says you're grounded  
& busts your bubble  
That's what friends are for

When your heart's broke & when  
being bullied & you have strep throat  
That's what friends are for

When you like hoops cause that's your  
Sport & you need more support  
That's what friends are for  
When you got love but need more  
That's what friends are for

You're always there & you care  
You always smile & would walk a mile  
You're the apple of my eye &  
Make me feel better when I cry  
When I pick a fight you're on

My side wrong or right  
I love you, I love you to, to the core  
Because that's what friends are for

**Tenth Grade-1st Place**  
**Zoe Moore**

**Homestead High School**

friend

my hollow boned beloved friend sometimes forgets she knows how to fly  
tongue twisted by frequented vocabulary, both arms embracing the known and sturdy  
sometimes she forgets her matrimony with discovery  
and i from my window tap out a fragile whisper of recovery and hope it reaches her side of the glass  
sometimes her symphony is too full of a brass cacophony that accompanies a too complete  
dependency  
on the safety of the ground  
sometimes she forgets her soul has wings, cannot be bound  
sometimes she forgets she is not trapped  
and i with two armfuls of hope and daffodils remind her of how able she is to be unmapped  
my hollow boned beloved friend sometimes forgets she knows how to fly  
to leave her roots and branches and connect the dots of the drunken sky  
and when her feet have sunken too deeply into earth i gently drop the needle on the record of her worth  
and pray the music fully reminisce on how limitless she truly is  
her tender feet designed for flutter rather than settlement, i hope to impart the sentiment that she is  
boundlessly independent and yet not vacant  
those hollow bones a blatant emblem of her freedom  
when she forgets her own momentum i softly kiss her palms and plant them in the direction of the sun  
love, the force that makes our spirits run  
my hollow boned beloved friend sometimes forgets she knows how to fly  
and in her hair i scatter glitter and the letters that form the words "just try"  
and when i see her move away from an affinity for close proximity to the earthly,  
to the certainty, to the ground  
when i see the sky surround her  
when i see flight again has found her  
i am at peace from my place in her mosaic of amor  
my hollow boned beloved friend  
i am here to help you soar

**Tenth Grade-2nd Place**  
**Thomas Wegmann**

**John Young Preparatory High School**

This and more That  
is what friends are for.  
A friend is someone on whom you can depend.  
One who will not buckle  
when you bend.  
And one who is beside you  
unto  
the  
very  
end.

**Tenth Grade-3rd Place**  
**Sherdell Baker**

**New Haven High School**

### **Strangers to Friends**

Everybody is somebody to somebody.  
significant or with minimal  
importance.

Somebody was there for me when I  
had nowhere to turn

Somebody was thinking about my  
well-being last night without me  
mentioning anything bad

Somebody was listening when I said I  
was done with everything but reminded  
me why I started

Everybody is somebody to somebody  
you believe it or not

Somebody you hardly know is your  
biggest supporter

I tried to thank her but she said  
that's what friends are for

**Tenth Grade-Honorable Mention**  
**Jessica Strickler**

**North Side High School**

### **WHAT ARE FRIENDS FOR**

Friends are like peas in a pod; they are never too far away.

They are like a wolf pack; they always have your back.

Friends are like a diary; they always keep your secrets.

Friends are like a lion; they will protect with all they can.

They are like the sun; they always brighten up your day.

Friends are like a monkey; they always make you laugh.

Friends don't care what you look like; they love you just the way you are.

A group of friends are like a family; they always act like brothers or sisters.

And that's what friends are for!

### **Friendships**

Friends are people you trust  
like many people trust this one friend  
this one friend they can trust  
with even the most delicate flower  
like a flower that grew under sand  
the sand was colored with a rich sandy color brown.

Friendships are like a land  
a flat foundation that was worked on  
and built with care and joy.

Some friends will touch your life along the way  
but only a few will touch your heart.

A true friend doesn't necessarily have to be measured by time and distance.

### **Real Friends**

Real friends stay together till the end,  
They are like two parallel lines that can't bend.  
They love each other forever,  
They always spend time together.  
They help each other and save the day,  
They're for others to stay.  
They help you when you fall,  
Real friends are best of all.

**What are friends for**

Everyone has a friend

Some knew them for a really long time, or a few years

So what do friends mean to you

I'm going to tell you, what friends are for

Someone being by your side. You may fight,

But you know in your heart that isn't right

Someday that you will miss them

when they have gone away.

They are a big part of your life

They have been by your side from good and bad days.

Friends are worth more than gold and

You know you can never replace them.

Friends can pick you up and wipe your tears away.

friendships are like diamonds true and rare

and there is nothing more precious than having a true friend.

Friends can turn your darkness into light

Friends can fill your heart with love

They are gift from god from above.

There are many people in the world

But there is only one of you.

Kindergarten,  
A time when making friends was the easiest thing to make.  
All you had to do was walk up to a kid and say "Hi, want to be my friend?"  
And just like that,  
You two have become the best of friends.

Now that time has passed  
It seems harder to find that one true friend,  
But when you do find that friend,  
You want them to be in your life forever.  
You want them to be there when you need them  
Because that's what friends are for.

Friends are the best things to have in life  
They make you laugh,  
They make you cry,  
They bring out the best in you.  
Because that's what friends are for.

Sure they make you mad at times for little things that they do,  
But the important thing is that you forgive them  
Because life keeps going on,  
And you never know what your life will be like without your best friend.

Friends always have your back  
No matter what  
Whenevers you're feeling down, they'll be there to cheer you up  
You create memories with them that will last a lifetime  
Always remember who your friends are  
They're always there for you, and you should be there for them  
In the good times and in the bad times  
Because that's what friends are for

**Twelfth Grade-1st Place**  
**Flynn Grayson Catey**

**North Side High School**

**What are Friends for**

Friends are not going to lie on or tell on you  
they are going to have your back during the good times  
and the bad times even then  
but most of all  
friends are friends  
they're freakin' awesome, man.

**Twelfth Grade-2nd Place**  
**Jacqueline Bush**

**North Side High School**

**That's what friends are for**

Friends are very protective of you to make sure you  
don't get hurt  
Friends can be like brothers and sisters to you  
Friends love you as you are, they don't care what you  
look like  
Friends can make you smile when you are upset  
A friend is someone we turn to when we are down  
Friends are always there when you need them  
Some friends can pick you up when you are sad  
Friends can be your boyfriend or girlfriend  
Friends are always there no matter what the  
situation is

Friends can be funny and crazy

You might not like them at first then you start  
getting to know them, you like them

That's what friends are for

**Twelfth Grade-3rd Place**  
**John Houser**

**North Side High School**

### **Friendship**

Friends are people who like to always hang out all the time.

A friend is a person who will always believe no matter what.

Friends are people who will always want to hang out and that will want to always believe

Friendship is a person who always comes to you for help.











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